

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Qian ZAHO, et al. **Examiner:** Ishrat I. SHERALI
Application No.: 10/066,339 **Group Art Unit:** 2621
Filing Date: January 30, 2002 **Office Action Date:** August 10, 2006
Docket No. 10758-36 **Confirmation No.** 9849
Title: LOSSLESS AND NEAR-LOSSLESS
SOURCE CODING FOR MULTIPLE
ACCESS NETWORKS **Customer No.** 30076

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Final Office Action of August 10, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1, 4-31 and 34-38 are pending in the present application.

Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 4, 31 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Slepian et al (Noiseless coding of Correlated Information Sources, IEEE Transaction on Information Theory, Vol. IT-19 No. 4, July 1973) in view of Yan et al. (On Instantaneous Codes for Zero Error Coding of Two Correlated Sources, IEEE 0-7803-5857-0/00).

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.

Please enter this Amendment
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